

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- Sub 1
- 5 1. A device for compressing the chest of a patient comprising:  
 a band adapted to extend around the chest of the patient;  
 a driver mechanism, operably connected to the band, for  
 circumferentially contracting the band;  
 a fluid-filled cushion disposed between the chest of the  
 patient and the band; and  
 an automatic controller for controlling operation of the  
 driver mechanism.
- 10 2. A device for compressing the chest of a patient comprising:  
 a band adapted to extend around the chest of the patient, the  
 band having a length and a plurality of fluid-receiving  
 cells disposed along the length of the band;  
 15 a driver mechanism, operably connected to the band, for  
 inflating the fluid-receiving cells;  
 a cushion disposed between the chest of the patient and the  
 band; and  
 an automatic controller for controlling operation of the  
 driver mechanism.
- 20 3. The device of claim 2, wherein the cushion is a sealed  
 cushion.
4. The device of claim 2, wherein the band is comprised of an  
 inelastic material.
- Sub B2
- 25 5. A device for compressing the chest of a patient comprising:  
 a band adapted to extend around the chest of the patient, the  
 band having a length and a plurality of fluid-receiving  
 cells disposed along the length of the band, wherein the

plurality of fluid-receiving cells are in fluid communication with each other;

a driver mechanism, connected to the band and the fluid-receiving cells, for inflating the fluid-receiving cells;

5 a cushion disposed between the chest of the patient and the band; and

an automatic controller for controlling the operation of the driver mechanism.

6. The device of claim 5, wherein the cushion is a sealed  
10 cushion.

7. The device of claim 5, wherein the band is comprised of an inelastic material.

8. A device for compressing the chest of a patient comprising:

a band adapted to extend around the chest of the patient, the band having a length and a plurality of fluid-receiving cells disposed along the length of the band, each fluid-receiving cells being interconnected to another fluid-receiving cells by a linking portion;

a driver mechanism, operably connected to the band, for  
20 inflating the fluid-receiving cells;

a cushion disposed between the chest of the patient and the band; and

an automatic controller for controlling operation of the driver mechanism.

25 9. The device of claim 8, wherein the cushion is a sealed cushion.

10. The device of claim 8, wherein the band is comprised of an inelastic material.

Sub. B3

11. A device for compressing the chest of a patient comprising:

a band adapted to extend around the chest of the patient, the band having a length and a plurality of fluid-receiving cells disposed along the length of the band, each fluid-receiving cells being interconnected to another fluid-receiving cell by a linking portion, wherein the plurality of fluid-receiving cells are in fluid communication with each other;

a driver mechanism, connected to the band and the fluid-receiving cells, for inflating the fluid-receiving cells;

a cushion disposed between the chest of the patient and the band; and

an automatic controller for controlling the operation of the driver mechanism.

12. The device of claim 11, wherein the cushion is a sealed cushion.

13. The device of claim 11, wherein the band is comprised of an inelastic material.